

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3196

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, UN, AU

SUBJ: UN ADMINISTRATION - DONAU PARK COMPLEX

REF: A. USUN 3120 (NOTAL; B. VIENNA 6574 (NOTAL);
C. STATE 198326

1. RE PARA 7 REFTEL A, STOTTLEMYER MET AUG 10 WITH SWISS AMB. MARCUARD AND AUSTRIAN CHARGE STRASSER. MARCUARD OPENED DISCUSSION WITH RUNDOWN ON DEVELOPMENTS TO DATE RE DONAU PARK; DESIRABILITY OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING ON QUESTION BEING REACHED BY SWISS, AUSTRIANS AND US; AND OUTLINED POSSIBLE PROBLEMS WHICH MIGHT DEVELOP, ESPECIALLY FROM LDC'S. MARCUARD CONCLUDED WITH REQUEST TO STRASSER TO PROUNCE HIMSELF ON BEHALF OF GOA ON PROPOSAL OF USYG DAVIDSON RE FIVE YEAR PHASED LOCATION OF SECRETARIAT STAFF IN VIENNA PER PARA 2 REFTEL A.

2. STRASSER SAID HIS GOVERNMENT COULD NOT TAKE A POSITION NOW ON QUESTION SINCE NOT ALL FACTS WERE KNOWN AND IT COULD DO SO ONLY AFTER REPORT BY SYG WALDHEIM TO 31ST UNGA WAS AVAILABLE. MARCUARD COUNTERED THAT GOS COULD ACCEPT DAVIDSON APPROACH AS COMPROMISE SOLUTION. IN REPLY TO QUERY, STOTTLEMYER SAID THAT IT BOTH
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GOA AND GOS AGREED TO DAVIDSON APPROACH, USG ALSO LIKELY

TO ACCEPT IT SINCE OUR INTEREST PRIMARILY WAS IN SEEING FACILITIES IN VIENNA OFFERED TO UN BEING USED FULLY AND IN MOST RATIONAL MANNER WHILE AT SAME TIME TRYING TO MINIMIZE OPPORTUNITY FOR LDC'S AND OTHERS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SITUATION FOR THEIR OWN POLITICAL PURPOSES.

3. IN FURTHER ELABORATION, STRASSER SAID THAT GOA PRIMARY INTEREST WAS IN GETTING DEFINITIVE UNGA DECISION AT 31ST SESSION ON FULLY UTILIZING AVAILABLE SPACE IN DONAU PARK WITH IMMEDIATE OCCUPANCY, AND IMPLIED THAT AUSTRIANS NEEDED THIS ASSURANCE TO MEET DOMESTIC PRESSURES. WHE MARCUARD COUNTERED THAT DAVIDSON PROPOSAL APPEARED TO BE BEST POSSIBLE COMPROMISE AND ONE WHICH GOS COULD LIVE WITH, STRASSER BACKED OFF SAYING THAT MATTER WOULD HAVE TO BE CAREFULLY STUDIED IN VIENNA AFTER FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH DAVIDSON LATER THIS WEEK. STOTTLEMYER REITERATED USG POSITION TO ACCEPT DECISION OF SYG ON QUESTION, BUT EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THREE HOST COUNTRIES COULD REACH EARLY UNDERSTANDING ON HOW BEST TO PROCEED AND DISCUSS THIS INFORMALLY WITH DAVIDSON PRIOR TO FINALIZATION OF SYG'S REPORT TO UNGA. BOTH MARCUARD AND STRASSER CONCURRED, AND AGREED THAT THERE SHOULD BE SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS AMONG THREE PARTIES (AND POSSIBLY DAVIDSON) WITH ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE BEING TO ELICIT SUPPORT FROM OTHER DELEGATIONS (IN FIRST INSTANCE OTHER WEO'S) SO THAT UNGA CAN TAKE DECISION ON DONAU PARK IN BUSINESS-LIKE MANNER WITHOUT SERIOUS POLITICAL PROBLEMS.

4. POSSIBLE LOBBYING BY SWISS AND/OR AUSTRIANS AT COLOMBO WAS NOT DISCUSSED, ALTHOUGH BOTH MARCUARD (WHO LEAVES FOR COLOMBO AUGUST 13) AND STRASSER (AMB. JANKOWITSCH ALREADY IN COLOMBO) AGREED THAT QUESTION OF VIENNA SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN LOW KEY AND COOPERATIVE MANNER.

5. AT CONCLUSION OF LUNCHEON, STRASSER PRIVATELY ASKED STOTTLEMYER IF THEY COULD MEET IN LATTER'S OFFICE QTE EARLY NEXT WEEK UNQTE FOR FURTHER DUSCISSION. STOTTLEMYER AGREED.

6. COMMENT: DURING THIS AND PREVIOUS DISCUSSIONS AMB.
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MARCUARD HAS BEEN OPEN AND TAKEN REASONABLE AND CONCILIATORY POSITION, LEAVING IMPRESSION THAT GOS INTENT ON FINDING SOME SOLUTION WHICH PROTECTS ITS OWN INTERESTS BUT AT SAME TIME FULLY TAKES INTO ACCOUNT GOA AND USG CONCERNS. ON OTHER HAND, STRASSER WAS CURIOUSLY EVASIVE AND LEFT IMPRESSION THAT AUSTRIANS ARE MUCH LESS DISPOSED TO COMPROMISE AND ARE DETERMINED IF NECESSARY TO ACT INDEPENDENTLY TO ACHIEVE THEIR OBJECTIVE OF GETTING THE ENTIRE DONAU PARK

SPACE FILLED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. WE ARE NOT SUGGESTING
THAT SWISS CALCULATION OF ITS SELF-INTEREST IS ANY
LESS HARDHEADED THAN AUSTRIAN, BUT AT LEAST HERE SWISS ARE
SCORING MUCH HIGHER FOR DIPLOMACY.
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